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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM EAGLEBURGER/AHERNE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), OGEN

SUBJECT: REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

- 1. WE HAVE TALKED OVER YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THE CONVENTION WITH STAN ANDERSON.
- 2. THE KEY EVENT FOR YOU IS A "SALUTE TO THE CABINET" CEREMONY ON THE CONVENTION FLOOR AT ABOUT 9:00 P.M. THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, JUST PRECEDING THE PRESIDENT'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH (THERE IS, OF COURSE, A MASSIVE ASSUMPTION IN THIS LAST PHRASE). ANDERSON BELIEVES YOU SHOULD PLAN TO BE IN KANSAS CITY FOR THIS THURSDAY EVENING CEREMONY ONLY REPEAT ONLY, AND ON THE BASIS OF HIS PRESENTATION, WE TEND TO AGREE:
- -- THE ROLL CALL FOR THE NOMINATION WILL BEGIN, AND PRESUMABLY END, WEDNESDAY EVENING, AND YOU WOULD NOT BE ANYTHING MORE THAN A SPECTATOR AT THIS PROCESS, OR AT THE CONVENTION CONFIDENTIAL

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EVENTS PRECEDING IT.

-- FOLLOWING THE ROLL CALL AND THE NOMINATION, THE PRESIDENT WILL BE PREOCCUPIED WITH THE VICE PRESIDENCY DECISION; HE IS EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE HIS VICE PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE AT

10:00 A.M. THURSDAY.

- -- THE REMAINDER OF THURSDAY WILL BE TAKEN UP WITH DELEGATION MEETINGS, CONSULTATIONS, ETC., ON THE VP NOMINATION. IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE ANY GREAT BATTLE (UNLESS REAGAN DECIDES TO CONTEST THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE; IN THAT CASE, DAYTIME THURSDAY WOULD SEE AN INTENSE STRUGGLE OVER THAT ISSUE), BUT THE ATTENTION OF DELEGATIONS WILL BE FOCUSSED ELSEWHERE, SO WE DOUBT THE USEFULNESS OF TRYING TO MEET WITH THEM THERE. IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT, AND MAYBE IMPOSSIBLE, TO GENERATE ANY INTEREST IN FOREIGN POLICY -- ESPECIALLY IF THERE IS AN OPEN FIGHT OVER THE VICE PRESIDENCY.
- 3. THERE WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL PRACTICAL PROBLEMS AT THE CONVENTION. FIRST OF ALL, YOU WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE TO TRAVEL VIA COMMERCIAL AIR AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE. THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED MORE MONEY THAN IT CAN LEGALLY SPEND, AND THE ENTIRE LEGAL SPENDING CEILING HAS BEEN COMMITTED. BECAUSE OF THE INTRICACIES OF THE NEW CAMPAIGN FINANCING LAW, THIS PRESENTS AN UNUSUAL PROBLEM: UNDER THE LAW, PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONVENTION, WHATEVER THEIR STATUS, ARE LIMITED TO AN OUTLAY OF \$500 FOR EX-PENSES; EXPENDITURES BEYOND THAT AMOUNT, TO A TOTAL OF $\$1,\!000$ MUST BE COUNTED AS AN IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN. AS NOTED ABOVE, THE PFC CAN ACCEPT THIS AMOUNT AS A CONTRIBUTION, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE OVER THE EXPENDITURE LIMIT. THEY CANNOT THEN MAKE A PAPER TRANS-FER TO REIMBURSE YOU. THE \$1500 LIMIT (ASSUMING YOU HAVE MADE NO OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FORD CAMPAIGN -- IF YOU HAVE, THE \$1500 MUST BE REDUCED AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT) ON YOUR EXPENDITURE WILL NOT BEGIN TO PAY FOR AN AIR FORCE PLANE TO KANSAS CITY AND BACK.
- 4. THE BURDEN ON KANSAS CITY HOTEL SPACE IS CRUSHING. CONFIDENTIAL.

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WE CAN GET YOU ONE DOUBLE ROOM IN THE HEADQUARTERS HOTEL, PERIOD. THAT IS WHAT THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CABINET HAVE AGREED TO ACCEPT. STAFF AND COMMUNICATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE LOCATED ELSEWHERE, AND ANDERSON FIGURES THAT WE CAN PROBABLY SET UP AN OFFICE 15 MINUTES OR SO AWAY FROM YOUR HOTEL; THIS THE DEPARTMENT WILL PAY FOR. LSE HAS TALKED TO SCOWCROFT, HOWEVER, WHO SAYS WE CAN USE HIS OFFICE AS NECESSARY

- 5. WE THEREFORE MUST KEEP STAFF AND COMMUNICATIONS TO A MINIMUM (ONE ASSISTANT, PERHAPS ONE SECRETARY; WE WOULD PROPOSE RELYING ON WH CABLE COMMUNICATIONS RATHER THAN SETTING UP A STATE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM).
- 6. ONE WAY TO MINIMIZE THE TRAVAIL WOULD BE TO GO OUT THURSDAY AFTERNOON, AND RETURN ON THE SAME DAY. UNFORTUNATELY, THE ONLY COMMERCIAL FLIGHT AVAILABLE AFTER 6:00 P.M. THURSDAY DEPARTS KANSAS CITY AT 1:45 A.M. FRIDAY MORNING; IT ARRIVES AT BALTIMORE (FRIENDSHIP) AT 7:40 FRIDAY MORNING (TWO AND A HALF HOURS FLYING TIME, TWO AND A HALF HOURS FOR TWO STOPS, ONE HOUR TIME CHANGE). THUS, YOU SHOULD PROBABLY PLAN TO STAY OVERNIGHT AND FLY BACK EARLY FRIDAY MORNING. THE ONLY DIRECT FLIGHT TO NATIONAL AIRPORT IN THE MORNING LEAVES KC AT 6:50 A.M. AND ARRIVES HERE AT 11:00 A.M. THERE ARE SEVERAL FLIGHTS IN THE AFTERNOON AS WELL. GIVEN THE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WHO WILL BE FIGHTING FOR TICKETS, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU AUTHORIZE US TO RESERVE SPACE NOW ON THE FOLLOWING FLIGHTS:
- (A) THURSDAY, AUG. 19 DEPART DULLES AT 2:55 P.M. ARRIVE KC AT 4:25 P.M.
- (B) FRIDAY, AUG. 20 DEPART KC AT 6:50 A.M.
 ARRIVE NATIONAL AIRPORT AT 11:00 A.M. THE NEXT FLIGHT IS
 AT 2:00 P.M., ARRIVING IN D.C. AT 6:25 P.M.
 7. THAT'S THE BAD NEWS. THE GOOD NEWS (THE ONLY GOOD
 NEWS) IS THAT WE CAN GET DAVID TICKETS FOR THE CONVENTION
 FLOOR.
- 8. WE MAY BE ABLE TO FIND A DOD AIRPLANE GOING IN THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF KANSAS CITY, AND/OR COMING BACK. THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ADVANTAGE OF GOING THAT WAY IS THAT DOD WOULD THEN BILL YOU THE EQUIVALENT OF COMMERCIAL FARE, RATHER THAN THE FULL COST. BUT SCOWCROFT AND LSE BOTH THINK THIS A BAD IDEA, BECAUSE IT WOULD LOOK AS IF DOD HAD PUT A PLANE ON FOR YOU, NO MATTER WHAT THE TRUE STORY.

9. SCOWCROFT HAS SEEN THIS MESSAGE, AND AGREES. HABIB

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